

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:

FRIDAY A.M.

January 29, 1982

RODIN EXHIBITION EXTENDED THROUGH APRIL 11

NEW RODIN FILM TO BE SHOWN DAILY

WASHINGTON, D. C. January 28, 1982. The closing date of Rodin Rediscovered, the National Gallery of Art's major exhibition devoted to the great French sculptor Auguste Rodin (1840-1917), has been extended to April 11, J. Carter Brown, Director of the Gallery, announced today, January 28. Mr. Brown made the announcement at the premiere of Rodin: The Gates of Hell, a 53-minute film describing the twenty-year development of Rodin's conception of this monumental work and dramatically documenting the first lost-wax casting in 1980. The finished casting, made from Rodin's full-scale plaster version of 1900, is on view in the exhibition.

Sustained popular response to the exhibition has prompted the extension. The more than 40 lenders have all agreed to extend their loans. Since its opening on June 28, 1981, the exhibition has been seen by over 1,000,000 visitors, with attendance at times exceeding 8,000 people a day. Even with such interest, few lines have formed because the installation is so spacious.

All major works, including those in the re-creation of the Paris salons of the 1870s, will remain through April 11. Only those drawings considered too fragile for further exposure to light will be withdrawn. The works installed on the East Building's ground floor and concourse level--Rodin's marble sculptures, The Gates of Hell and related works, and sculpture by

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later artists influenced by Rodin--will continue on view through May 2.

The new film, produced by Iris Cantor and David Saxon, will be shown in the East Building auditorium daily through May 2. By graphically juxtaposing scenes of the intense, painstaking work at the Coubertin Foundry over three years and location footage documenting the development of Rodin's vision, Rodin: The Gates of Hell offers a new dimension to the exhibition.

The film will be shown to the public on Friday, January 29, 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.; Saturday, January 30, at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.; and Sunday, January 31, at 6:00 p.m. From February 1 through May 2, showings of the film are scheduled as follows: Monday-Friday 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:15 p.m., 6:00 p.m.

Cinematic work on Rodin: The Gates of Hell began in 1977, when B. Gerald Cantor, a major Rodin collector, commissioned the first casting to be done by the lost-wax method. This complicated method allows the most faithfully detailed representation of a sculptor's work.

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Gallery hours: Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m-5 p.m.  
Sunday, noon-9 p.m.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director (Information Officer) or Mary Dyer, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565, area code 202, 842-6353.